October 8, 2004 www.hawaii.navy.mil Volume 29 Issue 41

Safety lessons Fed Fire stresses

Traditions Kids learn Polynesian

culture, dance See story on page B-1.

safety, awareness.

See story on page A-2.

Navy celebrates 229th birthday

JOSN Ryan C. **McGinley**

Staff Writer

The Navy in Hawai'i held its 2004 Enlisted Navy Ball Oct. 2 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. The event celebrated 229 years defending freedom around the world.

"It's about tradition and passing it along to the new Sailors," said Master Chief Cryptologic Technician -Maintenance James Davis, chairperson and master of ceremonies for the event. '[They're] the future of our Navy. To have our future, we have to know where we came from.

One thousand sixty-nine Sailors and their family members attended the event, which began with a presentation of colors, the national anthem and an invocation. Sailors then recited the Sailor's Creed and paid homage to those who were currently deployed and could not attend the event.

A Two Bell Ceremony fol-



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGlnley The youngest and oldest Sailors help cut the cake at the 2004 Enlisted Navy Ball, which celebrated 229 years defending free-

lowed, in which Davis read the names of those Sailors who lost their lives in combat over the past year.

dom around the world.

"The sounding of the two bells marks the moment set aside to pause and reflect on our shipmates who have made the ultimate sacrifice in past days," he said.

There was also a table set

aside for Sailors to honor those who were missing in action or prisoners of war, followed by the playing of

"It is reserved to honor our missing comrades," said Davis. "The table is set symbolizing that they are with

The guest speaker for the

event was Harold B. Estes, a 90-year-old retired chief boatswain's mate who served aboard USS California (BB 44) and a variety of other ship and shore commands. Davis encapsulated Estes by quoting his own remarks.

"Our guest speaker is selfdescribed as the oldest, ugliest boatswain's mate ever to serve in the United States Navy," said Davis.

During his speech, Estes remembered those who he served with, emphasizing the camaraderie that has lasted a lifetime.

"I had a wonderful time in the Navy, with the bad and the good, and with the shipmates I have had all over the world," he said. "I am still in contact with men I served with over 60 years ago. That's what it means to be a shipmate.

Estes also underlined the importance of remembering Sailors of the past, and how the emotion never leaves, no matter how old one gets.

"It was difficult for me in the opening ceremonies to keep from crying because of

the memories that flooded back to me about World War II and Korea and during my career in the Navy, where I had the opportunity to meet so many really wonderful people," Estes recalled.

The evening also included dinner, toasts, dancing and a birthday cake cut by the youngest and oldest Sailors in the room. Funds for the event were raised by the sale of Rim of the Pacific coins.

For one Sailor who attended the event, it marked the anniversary for him and his wife, who married last year on the same evening as the Yet he stressed the importance of attending the Navy Ball to remember honor, courage and commitment.

"We're in the Navy," said Cryptologic Technician -Maintenance 3rd Class Stephen Bennett, with Naval Security Group Activity, Hawai'i. "We should have pride in what we do, in the branch we're in. The ceremonies, the traditions, it's important to remember all

Navai'i

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Navy Region Hawai'i Energy Expo 2004 Navy Region Hawai'i's

Energy Team will conduct its first annual Energy Expo at The Banyans Oct. 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Take advantage of this free training opportunity to learn from over 50 national vendors and companies, who will display and demonstrate the latest energy efficient technologies and products available to conserve electricity, water, fuels and more in your home and office.

Participants will be able to ride in an electric car, enjoy some refreshments and win prizes while they learn to become more energy efficient.

Correction

In the Sept. 24 issue of Hawai'i Navy news, we incorrectly quoted Governor Linda Lingle as saying she was serving as the sponsor of USS Honolulu. In actuality, Lingle is sponsoring USS Hawai'i (SSÑ 776).

USS Honolulu has been serving the Navy since the late 1980s.

Hawai'i Navy News regrets the error and apologizes for any discomfort or discontent this may have caused. We respect the achievements of USS Honolulu and the submariners serving proudly aboard who are currently on a surge deployment to the 7th Fleet.

Thank you to the reader who alerted us to our error.

Region rededicates Smallwood Hall

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón **Editor**

Navy Region Hawai'i rededicated Smallwood Hall in a ceremony on Naval Station Pearl Harbor Wednesday.

"I remember when we shut this building down 20 months ago," said Senior Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) Joel Adamos, of Navy Region Hawai'i Combined Bachelor Housing. "The progress that has been made here is tremendous."

The barracks is intended for use by 216 single submariners living among the 17 floors while they are in port. Among the improvements in the \$23 million renovation were the addition of washers and dryers to rooms, incorporating a one-plus-one layout in which Sailors share a common area with one other Sailor and have a private room for themselves. Other improvements include enhanced exercise areas and bike lockers for Sailors to store gear in while they are at sea.

"It will only house half as many people, but that's because each room is now a one-person suite, complete with its own lanai, walk-in closet, and shared kitchen and bath," began Capt. Ronald



U.S. Navy photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderón

(Left to right) Capt. Ronald R. Cox, Bill Smallwood, Erma Smallwood and Capt Thomas F. Bersson until the maile lei at the rededication of Smallwood Hall. The building is named in memory of MM3 James Smallwood (in framed portrait).

▼ See SMALLWOOD, A-6



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGInley

(From left) Chaplain (Lt.) Kevin Norton, Cmdr. Darren Turner, Capt. Christopher Parente and Rear. Adm. Joseph Burns, members of the official party, salute in front of USS Nevada Memorial during the national anthem at a ceremony that established Naval Security Group Activity, Hawai'i. NSGA, Kunia and NSGA, Pearl Harbor merged commands to form one consolidated command on the island of Oahu to enhance mission effectiveness.

NSGA Hawai'i created

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

Staff Writer

Naval Security Group Activity, Kunia and Naval Security Group Activity, Pearl Harbor merged commands in a ceremony Sept. 30 at the USS Nevada Memorial to establish a single Naval Security Group Activity, Hawai'i.

"We are creating this morning the largest operational command in the naval security group," said Rear. Adm. Joseph D. Burns, Commander, Naval Security Group Command. "We're preparing our infrastructure to make it more responsive. We're reallocating our limited resources to maximize their effect and we're leveraging the various strengths of our partners and sister services by consolidating Navy assets in a joint facili-

In effect, NSGA, Kunia and NSGA, Pearl Harbor were disestablished as commands during the ceremony, but as Burns pointed out, the ceremony was more of a transformation to enhance mission effectiveness.

"Unlike other disestablishment ceremonies, we're not really disestablishing today," he said. "Pearl Harbor's people and mission will continue through the merger with NSGA, Kunia. It makes sense that we can build complete teams and maintain a critical mass in a single entity ... allowing NSGA, Hawai'i to

become a one stop shop for our customers." Cmdr. Darren L. Turner, former commanding officer NSGA, Pearl Harbor, noted that the unique environment in which the ceremony was held, played an important role in understanding the need for the transforma-

"I cannot think of a more fitting place to hold this particular ceremony," he said. "I can't help but think the events that transpired here on Dec. 7, 1941 induced a transition period within our military - a period where our country had to unite resources in order to accomplish the mission at hand. We are again in a period of transition. From my perspective, the naval security group has stepped forward with grace and authority, boldly transforming how [we] do business, in order to not only be more effective but also much more efficient."

Sailors from both commands emphasized the change as positive, and looked forward to meeting new coworkers.

"The Navy is always changing," said Crypotologic Technician–Maintenance 3rd

▼ See NSGA, A-7

Fed Fire hosts Fire Prevention Week

JO2 Devin Wright

Staff Writer

The Hawai'i Federal Fire Department kicked off the 2004 Fire Prevention Week Oct. 5 at Pearl Harbor Elementary School.

The national campaign was established in order to educate people on fire awareness and preven-

"As a prevention division of the Federal Fire Department we get to put on presentations in order to prevent fires," said Bernie Kahale . Hawai'i Federal Fire Department prevention chief. "The campaign is meant for everyone but we mainly target the kids. That's important because by going out to different schools the kids get to meet the fire fighters and paramedics. So if the need should arise and these kids need to call an ambulance or the fire department they won't be as scared, "explained Kahale.

The Federal Fire Department set up several demonstrations including a simulated fire exercise and static displays as well as fire trucks

and ambulances.

Commanding Officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor Capt. Ronald R. Cox was keynote speaker for the event and noted the fire departments most important resources are the personnel.

"The fire chief asked me if I would come out and say a few words," Cox told the students. "I asked him if they were going to have fire trucks and demonstrations. Then you bet I'll be out there. "Those things are great but more important are the men and women you see standing beside them (fire fighters)," said Cox. "They are the



U.S. Navy photo by PH1 (AW) William R. Goodwin Students from Pearl Harbor Elementary School get instruction on firefighting equipment from the Federal Fire Department during their national campaign established to educate people on fire awareness and prevention.

ones that make the fire department what it is."

Many of the students on hand for the event learned the importance of fire prevention.

"I learned that you should always think about fire safety," said one Pearl City Elementary fifth grader. "I also learned to always check your fire alarm because if you don't have a fire alarm you could get hurt by a fire if



U.S. Navy photo by PH1 (AW) William R. Goodwin

Students from Pearl Harbor Elementary School participate in the Federal Fire Department's demonstrations, which included a simulated fire exercise and static displays as well as fire trucks and ambulances.

you were sleeping or not paying attention."

The history of National Fire Prevention Week has its roots in the Great Chicago Fire, which occurred October 9, 1871. This tragic fire killed over 300 people, left 100,000 homeless and

destroyed more than 17,000 structures. To find out more on Fire Prevention Week, contact fire inspector Victor Flint at 474-7785.



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Devin Wright

Seven Navy Blue Angel F/A-18 Hornets arrived at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Tuesday. The Blue Angels are scheduled to perform high speed aerial manuvers at the Blues on the Bay Air Show

Blue Angels arrive

JO2 Devin Wright

Staff Writer

The Navy's Blue Angels roared into Kaneohe Marine Corps Base Tuesday. The Blue Angels are a high-speed aerobatic pilot team that performs 70 air shows for over 15 million spectators a year.

The Blue Angels will perform at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base "Blues on the Bay" Air Show today for military members at 7:45 a.m. and Saturday and Sunday for civilians starting at 11:45 a.m. The team will perform a series of high-speed maneuvers for nearly for an and a half showcasing the capabilities of F/A-18 Hornets.

"These guys are the best of the best," said Lt. Col. John Christensen, air show coordinator. "Anyone who comes out should expect a great show. After the performance the team will meet and greet the crowd and sign autographs. In addition to the Blue Angels, we have Air force and civilian pilots that will be performing and we will have static dis-

Över 75,000 spectators are expected to congregate at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base over the weekend for the air show. The base will be open to the public and the event is free.

"We recommend that people show up early," Christensen. "We also recommend that people try and car pool. We will have parking available at Bellows Air Force Base with free transportation from Bellows to the air show."

Gates will open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday.

The Navy Blue Angels were establisheď in 1946. Since then, the Blue Angels mission is to enhance Navy recruiting while serving as goodwill ambassadors. This is the first time in 22 years the Blue Angels have preformed at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base. For more information call 257-8840 or visit www.bluesonthebay.org.

Navy News Editorial Letters to the Editor:

Financial matters during deployment | Concern over HNN content

With our nation's prolonged military involvement in the worldwide war against terrorism and more servicemen and women being called for active duty, we know many of those in uniform are concerned about keeping financial matters current during deployments.

We understand the personal and professional hardship this situation can sometimes create, particularly for those with outstanding credit.

However, by taking a couple of simple steps, members of our military can more easily keep their financial situation in

• Sign up for automatic loan payments: These can apply to personal loans, automobile loans, and mortgages -- any loan with a constant monthly amount. Automatic loan payment forms are available at any branch of any bank. The process takes less than 15 minutes and automatic payments can be initiated within 30 days.

• Sign up for Direct Deposit: This applies to payroll checks or any other regular payments made to a member of the military. This assures that deposits will be credited to your account in a timely manner and funds will be available quickly. Here again, direct deposit forms are available at your branch of account.

Finally, we encourage members of our military to discuss with your bank any potential financial problems you are facing, or anticipate facing. On a case by case basis, depending on need and circumstances, your bank may well be able to

Thank you for your service to our country. Those of us in the civilian community sincerely appreciate your commitment and sacrifice.

Sincerely, Mark Felmet **Executive Vice President** First an Bank

I am disappointed in the Oct. 1, 2004 edition of the Hawai'i Navy News. My disappointment stems from the article, "TJ'S Sports Bar and Grill" (page B-2), which needlessly relies upon negative stereotypes of women in general, and wives in particu-

From reading the article, one could draw the conclusion that the writer has little respect for women. This conclusion could come from several stereotypical statements in the article: "Wives and girlfriends must relinquish the remote control," "For those men who cannot steal the remote from their wives or girlfriends," "Patrons can enjoy their favorite beers or alcohol without a wife or spouse counting the number you drink in a battery of disgust and disappointment" and "Leave Lifetime and the Oxygen network to your wife.'

What is more disturbing is that by publishing the article, the Hawai'i Navy News potentially gives the appearance that the U.S. Navy is endorsing negative views of women. Every year the Navy expends precious time and resources attempting to train and educate Sailors on issues like equal opportunity, sexual harassment and domestic violence. The articles published in your paper should try to reinforce the Navy's policies on these issues, not under-Please understand I do not mean to say

discrimination, harassment or domestic violence. Just that the one article published was careless in its references to women, wives and girlfriends. And I am not condemning your entire paper. This edition contained many fine articles, including one concerning domestic

that the Hawai'i Navy News is endorsing

violence and several celebrating cultural Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully, Lt. John W. McHenry III Judge Advocate General Corps.

Commentary

Service to Sailors

ASYMCA Welcome Baby program helps expectant, new moms

Kathy Kinneman

Armed Services YMCA

In Hawai'i, when young moms-to-be and new moms like Amanda need help, the Armed Services YMCA's Welcome Baby program is there to lend a hand. Welcome Baby is a free home visitation program that provides education, information, referrals, advocacy and support to new and expectant military fami-

"It's our first child. My husband didn't get to the last experience months of my pregnancy, he didn't get to feel the baby kick," says Amanda, wife of a soldier who is currently stationed in Afghanistan. "When the baby came, he was deployed. I didn't get to see his face when she was born. We didn't get to bond together as a familv." Amanda's situation is all too familiar in these days of increased levels of deployment and opera-

"We want the young moms to know that they are not alone", said Home Visitor Terri Nelson. "We are here to offer support, teach them about available resources, and help reduce the stresses of having a baby when daddy is deployed and the rest of the family is on the mainland".

Terri and fellow Home Visitor Susan Goeckner are both military wives and understand what it is like to have babies away from home and family.

"As military spouses, Terri and Susan bring valuable life experience to their work", said ASYMCA Executive Director, Dave Gomez. "They know what it's like to give birth and raise children in a military setting. That can be just as important as the professional training required for the position of Home Visitor", added Gomez.

Using referrals from Parent Support programs from each branch of the service, Home Visitors contact expectant moms and offer to meet with the family to provide support and assistance services.

Face-to-face visits are supplemented by regular phone contacts. Home Visitors also conduct classes on topics of interest to new moms- infant massage, age-appropriate toys, and how to cut costs by making baby food at home, are some of the subjects addressed in the classes. Input from clients helps shape the

"We want to teach healthy pregnancy practices, and introduce them to community resources that will be helpful", said Home Visitor Susan Goeckner.

Through a series of pre- and post-natal home visits, ASYMCA Home Visitors provide useful childbirth, parenting and childcare information plus referrals to appropriate military and civilian agencies. Visits can take place in settings where the expectant mother feels most comfortable, often in the home, the OB clinic or, sometimes immediately after birth, in the ward.

Welcome Baby particularly targets the young, junior enlisted military population whoexpecting their first baby and are not categorized as high risk.

Of the clients served in 2003, 73 percent were junior enlisted, low-income families and 27 percent moderate-income were families. The majority of the clients were under the age of 23.

In 2003, the two Home Visitors served over 350 families, conducted 2,871 visits with clients, taught 40 classes, and provided hundreds of hours of additional telephone support. Nearly 90 percent of clients said they had low levels of stress about pregnancy and childbirth after working with a Home Visitor.

Before joining the Welcome Baby program, the same clients rated their stress levels as moderate to very high.

For more information about the Welcome Baby program, call Dave Gomez, ASYMCAExecutiveDirector at 473-1427.

Rumsfeld: Do not bring back the draft

Donald Rumsfeld

Secretary of Defense

Letter to The Honorable Duncan Hunter -Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer the Department of Defense's views on H.R. 163, the "Universal National Service Act of 2003."

I oppose any proposal to re-institute the draft. The recently released Statement of Administration Policy states that "[I]f the President were presented with this bill, he would veto it."

A draft simply is not needed. We have 295 million people in the United States of America and there are some 2.6 million active and reserve forces serving. We are capable of attracting and retaining the people we need, through the proper use of pay and other incentives.

The Army, at 101 percent, and Marine Corps, at 100 percent, both exceeded their active forces recruiting goals through Sept. 2004. Retention is also doing well; particularly striking are retention figures for units that have deployed overseas. These numbers and

trends could change, and we track them carefully. Of the Army's ten active duty divisions, though, nine are exceeding reenlistment goals by five percent or more. I understand that the 1st Infantry Division, now deployed in Iraq, is meeting over 150 percent of its reenlistment target.

There is indeed stress on our current forces – but not because of a shortage of uniformed personnel. Instead, our forces are not properly aligned or organized for the post-Cold War era. Too many skills we need are heavily concentrated in the reserve components. Too many of our active forces are organized in large, heavy divisions that are not readily deployable. Too many military personnel - tens of thousands - are performing tasks that could and should be performed by civilians. Our complex civilian personnel rules make it much easier to assign someone in uniform to perform a desired task.

We are addressing many of these issues. For example:

Using emergency authority provided by Congress, we have increased the size of the active Army by as many as 30,000 troops since Sept. 11, 2001.

The Army is increasing the number of active, deployable combat brigades from

33 to 43 or more by re-designing them in a manner more appropriate to post-Cold War capabilities and needs.

The army is also retraining and restructuring the active and reserve components to achieve a more appropriate distribution of usable skill sets and to improve the overall responsiveness and deployability.

Already the services have rebalanced some 10,000 military spaces both within and between the active and reserve components in 2003, and expect to rebalance another 20,000 spaces during 2004. The goal is that individual reservists and guardsmen will mobilize less often, for shorter periods of time, and with somewhat more predictability.

In danger zones across the globe, the all-volunteer, professional force is performing superbly – as typified by operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. I have met with many of these men and women as they carry out their missions. They are committed, enthusiastic and proud to be contributing to the defense of the nation. Most importantly, they want to be doing what they are doing. Every single one of them stepped forward. Raised their hand, and said, "I'm ready. I want to serve." They are serving professionally and proudly.

Missouri returns from historic mission



ILS. Navy nhoto

The pride of the U.S. Fleet is the USS Missouri (BB 63), the ship on which the surrender terms were signed in Tokyo Bay. Hundreds of Pearl Harbor workers and Navy Yard enlisted personnel lined the docks Oct. 8, 1945 as the immortal battlewagon steamed in from its history-making mission.

Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i -(Rear Adm. Sel.) Capt. Michael C. Vitale Chief of Staff, Navy Region Hawai'i -Capt. Ronald R. Cox

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LA(PHOT) Paul A'Barrow, Combat Camera Team

The Iraqi Coastal Defense Force (ICDF) was officially launched at the port of Umm Qasr, southern Iraq on Sept. 30. The ceremony included a sail past by the fleet and saluting the dias of VIP's before continuing out to sea.

Iraqi Navy casts off in defense of coastal waters

JOC Joe Kane

Special to American Forces Press

The Iraqi Coastal Defense Force took official responsibility for protecting the country's coastline Sept. 30 at a ribbon-cutting and pass-in-review ceremony at the port of Umm Qasr.

Senior Iraqi officials and members of the multinational forces attended the ceremony, witnessing an honor salute from the new fleet as the ships cruised by the VIP stand.

"Iraqis have taken responsibility for protecting territorial waters today, and actual work will begin tomorrow," said Iraqi Col. Hameed Balafam, commander of the Coastal Defense Force.

The ICDF began operations Oct. 1, protecting Iraq's coastal territories and ensuring the security of Iraq's offshore oil wells and installations. The southern port of Iraq is the exit point for most of

the country's oil exports.
"Our first mission will be to protect oil ports in Basra and Khor al-Amaya from saboteurs and infiltrators," said Balafam. "I'm fully confident because most of the Iraqi Coastal Defense Force

personnel are from the former Iraqi navy and I'm confident about their skills."

The training of the ICDF began in January using a combination of instructors from the multinational forces including the British Navy and Marines, and the U.S., Australian, and Netherlands' navies. With a force of 412 personnel, the ICDF is slightly more than 100 percent manned, with their original goal set at 409.

Training included courses on basic seamanship, firefighting, and boarding operations.

"Maybe some of the training courses we knew already," said Balafam. "But we have new information about ship handling, seamanship, navigation and navigating in narrow water."

Balafam said new equipment like global positioning systems and improvements in radar have improved the capability of the ICDF.

The force has a relatively new fleet, which includes 33 rigid-hull inflatable boats and fast aluminum speedboats, and five 27- meter Chinese-made Predator gunboats.

The captain of gunboat P104 said the goal is to rebuild the Iraqi Coastal

Defense Force.

"Now we have new vessels better than the previous ones. We are not afraid. We volunteered to protect our country and, God willing, it will be all right," he said.

Like many of the new ICDF volunteers, the captain of P104 was a member of the former regime's Navy. But now that the rebuilding is taking place, recruits have signed up from all over Iraq.

"Most of them are from the south — Basra and Nasiriyah and Maysan," said Balafam. "But also some are from Baghdad and Kut and Hillah. When we opened for recruiting, it is for everybody — it's not just here. Anyone who wants to join the Coastal Defense Force can come from everywhere in Iraq."

Army Brig. Gen. James Schwitters, commanding general of the Coalition Military Assistance Training Team, attended the ceremony and commented that ICDF personnel have shown the ability to perform well.

"Certainly they've proven to be excellent seamen. They know the waters; they know the language; they know the local threats and concerns, so I'm very confident," Schwitters said. "It's just the beginning."

much more difficult to operate as part of a much larger entity. Now, we've put the whole battle group to sea, and we had opposition forces – bad guy submarines, bad

Strike Group completes

USS Carl Vinson Carrier

latest COMPTUEX

USS Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group Public Affairs

The USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) Carrier Strike Group successfully completed its 22-day Composite Training Unit Exercise, (COMPTUEX) Oct. 2 in the seas off the coast of Southern California.

COMPTUEX is an intermediate-level strike group training exercise. It typically represents the first time in a training cycle a carrier strike group operates together as a cohesive team and is a critical step toward the final certification to deploy overseas.

"COMPTUEX is an exercise, where, for the first time, we take the strike group — Carl Vinson, Air Wing 9, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 31 and the rest of the ships that are going to deploy with us — to make sure we are ready for deployment," said Carl Vinson Commanding Officer Capt. Kevin Donegan.

The exercise was broken down into two phases that were intended to test the strike group's ability to function as a carrier strike group.

Phase I was designed to provide training for warfare commanders and the rest of the strike group in operational tasking and decisionmaking.

Phase II was a scenario designed to measure the ability of the strike group to act as a coordinated, combatready force and was intended to closely resemble reallife conflict.

"For this exercise, we took the teamwork we've built with Air Wing 9 and expanded it to include DESRON 31 and the other ships in the battle group," said Donegan. "It's relatively easy to take a ship to sea and operate, and it's relatively easy to bring the air wing aboard and operate together, but it's much more difficult to operate as part of a much larger entity. Now, we've put the whole battle group to sea, and we had opposition forces – bad guy submarines, bad

guy airplanes, bad guy ships – and we defended the battle group as we were conducting whatever operations we had to do — whether that was strike operations or operations to find an enemy ship and board it."

The success of COMPTUEX was a direct result of the hard work and dedication of highly trained Sailors and Marines from all rates and ranks.

"We had the combat personnel involved, and we had to get everyone else that mans the ships — from the folks on the flight deck, to the crew in the engineering plant — to come together and make the whole thing work," said Donegan.

"You can try to simulate this kind of thing," said Operations Specialist 1st Class Cordy Jackson, Submarine Advisory Team operations assistant, "but, there's a big difference between a table-top exercise in some classroom and going through a real COMPTUEX at sea. On a carrier, you experience the stress and adrenaline as you go into the Final Battle Problem. The learning curve is very high. It's an invaluable experience."

"The Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group has my congratulations on a truly exceptional COMPTUEX," said Rear Adm. Bruce Clingan, commander of the Strike Group. "I could not be more pleased with the performance of each unit and the strike group as a whole. The exercise was not without its challenges, but each one was met head on, and overcome with initiative and professionalism. I have never observed any team or teams work better together, and I could not be more proud of what they accomplished."

Units that participated in COMPTUEX include Carl Vinson, with CVW-9, and DESRON 31, USS O' Kane (DDG 77), USS Mustin (DDG 89), USS Antietam (CG 54), USS Camden (AOE 2), USS Olympia (SSN 717), and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 11, Det. 9.

STORY IDEAS?

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements

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Hawaii Navy News

Award: Naval Submarine Support Command earns latest Meritorious Unit Commendation

Command lauded for superior service to submarine community

JO3 Corwin Colbert

COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

Rear Adm. Paul F. Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUB-PAC) presented Naval Support Command Pearl Harbor (NSSC) the Meritorious Unit Commendation Sept.

Cmdr. Mark Waller, commanding officer for NSSC, said motivation was the force behind their success.

"The biggest factor contributing to the award was NSSC Pearl Harbor's tireless effort in preparing the Pearl Harbor based-submarines for their participation in Operation Iraqi Freedom," said Waller. "NSSC's expert planning, maintenance management, logistics support Pacific the Submarine Force to deploy eight of 16 Pearl Harborbased submarines.

"Not one department stood out above another, as NSSC's accomplishments can be attributed to the efforts of the entire team. Teamwork played a vital role in NSSC's ability to deliver top quality support to the submarines and their operational commanders, ensuring they were ready to fight when called," he

said.
"The synergy by NSSC validated the Team Pearl Harbor' concept, where NSSC successfully coordi-



U.S. Navy photo by PHAN Benjamin D. Glass The USS Pasadena (SSN 752), a Pearl Harbor submarine, returns from deployment. NSSC's contributing efforts to Operation Iraqi Freedom helped earn them the award.

nated the efforts of the many diverse waterfront organizations in preparing the submarines for their assignments in a time-compressed and resource-limited wartime environment,' said Waller.

"Each department played vital roles, including mate-

rial management, logistics, communications, weapons and personnel, ensuring every Pearl Harbor submarine was fully ready to carry out the combatant commander's operational requirements. This award recognizes the effort of each member of NSSC who ensured our submarines were able to get the job done," he added.

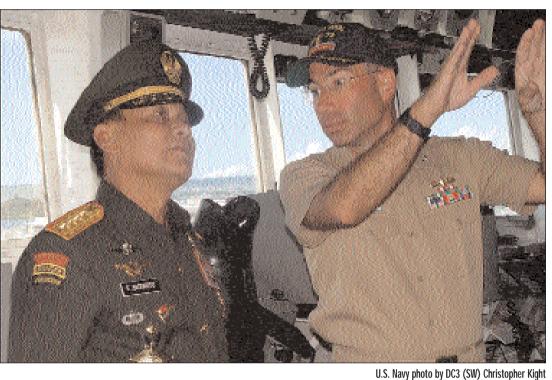
COMSUBPAC Master Chief Michael Benko said the award was well deserved.

"It was nice to recognize NSSC for their efforts and the support they give the squadrons to get there submarines underway. It is not easy to get a Meritorious Unit Commendation. It is great to give recognition to this talented group of people who assisted in completing our missions," he

According to Sullivan, NSSC was large part of the success of submarine mis-

"Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom included the largest surge of submarines at sea since World War II and it was accomplished on the shoulders of the men and women of Naval Submarine Support Command. They were not on the front line but they were responsible for the submarines going to sea on time and to remain on station for the combatant commander in the theater," Sullivan concluded.

The Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation was instituted in 1967. It is awarded to Navy/Marine Corps units for gallant actions or meritorious achievement (combat or non-combat).



Capt. David E. Matawitz, commanding officer USS Port Royal (CG 73) explains bridge operations to Major General Endriartono Sutarto, assistant for intelligence during a visit. His visit included a walkthrough of several of the combat systems spaces.

Indonesian general visits Port Royal

By DC3(SW) Christopher Kight

USS Port Royal

Indonesian Armed Forces' Commander-in-Chief visited USS Port Royal (CG 73) Sept. 27 to Sept. 30.

Accompanying him were various other generals and admirals from the Indonesian Armed Forces including Maj. Gen. Endriartono Sutarto, Assistant for Intelligence, Brig. Gen. Anshory Tadjudin Indonesian DATT and the Assistant for General Planning,.

"Though not without precedence, it is uncommon for someone of his status to visit. We were very honored to have Gen. Sutarto as our guest. " said Lt. Cmdr. Hank Adams, Port Royal's executive officer.

His visit included a walkthrough of several of the combat systems spaces including command information center, the five inch gun mounts, the bridge, and topside of the VLS decks. He spoke to several of the Sailors on board Port Royal, and was very pleased at the expertise shown of various systems around the ship.

After his brief tour of Port Royal, he spent time with Adm. Thomas Fargo, Commander, US Pacific Command and visited the Polynesian Cultural Center for a traditional

Chafee completes CARAT

Ensign Sonia Honda

USS Chafee Public Affairs

On Sept. 3, the guidedmissile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) completed Command Assessment of Readiness and Training (CARAT) - Phase II, marking the start of the ship's training cycle in preparation for joining the Nimitz Strike

The training begins on the heels of a very successful and compressed threemonth Post Shakedown Availability (PSA), which was completed four weeks ahead of schedule.

"Completing PSA one month early was critical for Chafee to be ready to deploy with Nimitz," noted Cmdr. John Ailes, Chafee's commanding officer.

PSA is a maintenance period unique to newly commissioned ships. It is similar to a Selected Restricted Availability (SRA), but the work package is composed of improvements and repairs done by the ship builder as part of the new construction process to modernize and correct deficiencies in the

ship.
"The PSA upgrade process may at first seem redundant since Chafee was just commissioned in late 2 CWO2 Rich Langley, the ship's systems test officer. "However, the ship was contracted back in 1998 and



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Dennis C. Cantrell

USS Chafee (DDG 90) completed Command Assessment of Readiness and Training (CART) - Phase II, marking the start of the ship's training cycle in preparation for joining the Nimitz Strike Group. The training begins on the heels of a three-month Post Shakedown Availability (PSA).

therefore some of the equipment needed upgrades due to technological advances made during the last five years."

Workers from three different shipyards participated in Chafee's PSA: Southwest Marine, Hawai'i Shipyard Incorporated, and Bath Iron Works. The workers adapted to each other's procedures and worked together as a team.

Mike Galecki, from the Program Executive Office -Ships, coordinated all work and met daily with the ship's crew.

The cooperation and coor dination achieved between the Program Office, shipyard personnel and Chafee's crew during PSA was truly

remarkable," said Lt. David Purkiss, Chafee's PSA Coordinator. "We jumped right into PSA after an extremely challenging yearprecommissioning process and began a major maintenance availability the day after Final Contract Trials (FCT) and the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) concluded. Our success is a testament to the excellent planning, hard work, and dedication by the

With PSA and CART II behind them, the crew of Chafee now begins a 10week training cycle that will culminate in the ship's setting sail to join the Nimitz Strike Group in exercises at sea in November.

SWO Community sees changes

Naval Surface Force Pacific

Pacific Public Affairs Office

As part of the Navy's Human Capital Strategy, the Surface Navy is introducing a new specialty career path for Surface Warfare Officers (SWOs) that allows officers who complete their first shipboard department head tour to request transfer to specialize in one of six areas, vice the traditional Command-at-Sea career path.

specialties terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP), Anti-submarine Warfare, Missile Defense, Mine Warfare Specialist, Shore Installation Management and Strategic Sealift (MSC). Details on this SWO specialty community are posted NAVADMIN www.bupers.navy.mil.

"This new SWO specialization career path program offers an exciting winwin opportunity for Surface Warfare Officers and the Navy," said Rear Adm. Mike Lefever, flag sponsor for the program. "It's a win for the officers because they will be able to specialize in areas in which they have an increased interest and passion. The officer will gain experience and develop management and leadership skills that will serve the Navy well. It's also a win for the Navy, because we will train and maintain a cadre of trained officers that have multiple tours in a specialty area already assigned to SWOs and help us keep talented SWOs in the Navy who might otherwise choose to leave the service."

Officers in paygrades O3 – O5 desiring to enter one of these new SWO career paths can do so by submitting a written application to PERS-41 after



U.S. Navy photo by PH1 Terry W. Matlock

Seventh Platoon, 1st Fleet Anti-terrorism Security Team (FAST) (above) is one of the many specialty commands surface warfare officers can request as part of the Navy's Human Capital Strategy, vice the traditional command-at-sea career path

completing their first Department Head tour (or 18 month point for fleetup DH billets such as Weps to CSO). A selection board, chaired by a SWO Flag Officer, will meet twice a year in January and July to select those officers best qualified to serve the needs of the Navy in each of the new career paths. Once selected, the officer would receive appropriate training and education and be assigned to billets that would develop experience and expertise in their specialty field. Selected officers would retain their SWO designator and Additional receive an Qualification Designator (AQD) that indicates their area of specialization.

For example, an officer transitioning to the SWO shore installation management career path might expect a career that could include tours as a department head and XO of a naval base,

assignment to regional command staffs, assignment to the CNI staff and O5/O6 command tours at naval bases and installations within the shore installation management specialty. Graduate education in specific disciplines - operations analysis, logistics, or financial management in this particular case - would provide further benefit. Along the way the officer would gain experience and developing management and leadership skills that will serve the Navy well.

"We have invested significantly in the growth and development of our people," added Lefever. "These career paths provide more opportunities for SWOs to continue their growth and development as part of the Navy's Human Capital Strategy, taking a critical look at better ways to maximize the investment we make in our people."

Fletcher decommissions

JO1 Heather W. Hines

Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Before a crowd of current and former crewmembers, USS Fletcher (DD 992) was decommissioned Oct 1. at Naval Station San Diego after 24 years of naval service.

In June, Fletcher returned to San Diego after participating in a 23-month deployment under Sea Swap. Sea Swap was initiated to increase forward presence by reducing transit time from homeport to an operating area.

The reduction in transit time allows an additional 40 to 50 days of time on-station per deployment.

Under Sea Swap, Fletcher spent more than 17 months in the U.S. 5th Fleet operating area, conducting operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The additional on-station time that resulted from Fletcher's four crew swaps, each at six-month intervals, equated to five regular west coast deployments.

As Fletcher's command master chief during Sea Swap, Master Chief George Dwyer feels Sailors have to find ways to remain motivated about their ship, regardless of the number painted on the

"We really got to examine



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Bradley Sapp Sailors "man the rails" awaiting liberty call aboard the destroyer USS Fletcher (DD

where espirit de corps, morale and pride come from," Dwyer said. "Most people never really look at that. They associate it with the hull number on the ship. When you're going to do a Sea Swap, you're forced to examine 'how do we preserve the pride when we no longer refer to ourselves the way we

The four destroyer crews to serve on Fletcher during its forward deployment consisted of Sailors from the original Fletcher crew, and the now decommissioned USS Kincaid (DD 965), USS Oldendorf (DD 972) and USS Elliot (DD 967).

Commissioned July 12, 1980, Fletcher was named in recognition of Medal of Honor recipient Adm. Frank H. Fletcher, who was awarded the medal for distinguished service in the Battle of Vera

Smallwood: Family appreciates hospitality shown by Sailors during Pearl Harbor visit

Continued from A-1

Cox, Chief of Staff for Navy Region Hawai'i and commanding officer of Naval Station Pearl Harbor. "Air conditioning has been added, and the building has been strengthened to meet the newest anti-terrorism requirements. Now, when our single Sailors return from long patrols on a crowded submarine, they will have a clean, modern room off the boat to call home. It's the least we can do for the sacrifices we ask them to make."

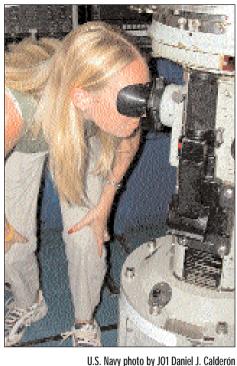
The bachelor barracks is named for Machinist's Mate 3rd Class James Smallwood who, in 1960, saved his shipmates aboard USS Sargo (SSN 583). On June 14, 1960, Sargo was moored here preparing for an underway period. Smallwood was aboard because he had taken duty for a married shipmate who wanted to spend one more night with his family before going back to sea.

Smallwood was supervising the charging of the oxygen system aboard the submarine. According to procedures, no one was allowed in the area and watertight hatches needed to be closed. Smallwood had a senior petty officer leave the area and refused access to others who wanted to get into the spaces. A fire broke out because of a faulty metal braided hose and consumed the space in which Smallwood was keeping watch. Witnesses later reported seeing a fireball rising almost 100 feet in the air. The fire was so intense, Sargo's commanding officer personally opened the ballast tanks to submerge the stern to cool the bulkheads and prevent an even greater disaster from occurring. According to the citation for the Navy and Marine Corps Medal he received posthumously, "Through his steadfast adherence to safety precautions, he undoubtedly prevented further loss of life and a probably major disaster."

"He did what he thought was right," said Bill Smallwood, James' brother and a World War II veteran himself. "Knowing that the safety precautions are important and why they were important and that lack of enforcement could potentially mean the death of shipmates and even the death of his boat, Jim did his duty."

Bill, his wife Erma, son John, daughter-in-law Terry and grandchildren Elissa Armstrong and Jacob and Hilary Simmons were here for the ceremony. The family toured Pearl Harbor Tuesday. They got the chance to visit USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) and USS Key Weet (SSN 722)

Key West (SSN 722). "I never realized how much detail was



U.S. Navy photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderón Elissa Armstrong looks through the periscope aboard USS Louisville (SSN 722). Armstrong is the grand-niece of MM3 James Smallwood, for whom Smallwood Hall is named.

involved in your daily lives," said Hilary Simmons after her tour aboard Chung-Hoon. "Little things like plating the surfaces with rubber to dampen the radar is incredible. I have so much more respect for the crews here since I learned how you do what you do."

Other members of the family were also impressed with the Sailors they met and with the hospitality they received.

"The welcome just grows," said Erma Smallwood, who would have been James' sister in law. "When we first came out [for the dedication ceremony in 1988], there was a big sign out saying 'Welcome Smallwood Family.' The sign is down now but there is still a great sense of welcome whenever we come back."

"It was better than I expected," said Jacob Simmons. "This was my first real experience with the military. The crews we met were really nice, very efficient and they were all really good hosts."

and they were all really good hosts."

"I was really impressed," echoed Terry Smallwood, Hilary and Jacob's mother.
"I'm sure they had better things to do but you wouldn't have known it by the time then spent with us. They treated us with a lot of respect and spoke with reverence of the memory of James."

everence of the memory of James."

The family was impressed with the



U.S. Navy photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderón Bill and Erma Smallwood prepare to cut the cake at Wednesday's re-dedication of Smallwood Hall. The barracks is named for Bill's brother MM3 James Smallwood, who received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal posthumously.

connection local Sailors felt with them, especially after learning James Smallwood's actions are used to demonstrate to current submariners the true measure of devotion to duty.

"It means a lot to me," said James' grand niece, Elissa Armstrong. "It's more than I expected. They talk about how connected they feel to our family. Both of the men who gave our tours said they were really honored to be with our family."

Cox reiterated this sense of family and connection in his remarks at the ceremony. He had served aboard Sargo from 1981 to 1984.

"The story of James Smallwood has special meaning to me," Cox said. "As DCA on the Sargo in 1982, I knew that for the honor, courage and commitment two decades earlier of an MM3 from Monmouth, Illinois named Jim Smallwood, there might not be a Sargo."

James' family feels the barracks is a fitting tribute to him.

"It serves a great purpose," said John Smallwood, James' nephew. "It's almost like he's still here serving his shipmates."

"I think he would appreciate having this building named for him," said Bill Smallwood. "I know I was very appreciative when I saw it for the first time and I'm amazed to see the changes it's gone through. I am very proud to be a part of Pearl Harbor history."

Hours after the ceremony was completed, the newly-renovated Smallwood Hall received its first permanent party residents as Sailors from USS Bremerton (SSN 698) checked in to their new one-plus-one rooms at the barracks named for a submariner who gave his life protecting other submariners.



U.S. Navy photo by JO3 Corwin Colbert Sailors from NSSC watch a cooking demonstration at the official opening of the new culinary training facility at Lockwood Hall.

NSSC opens new culinary training facility at Lockwood Hall

JO3 Corwin Colbert

COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

Capt. Mike Bonnette,
Commander Submarine
Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet
Director of Supply and
Financial Management, and
Lt. Michael Davidson, Naval
Submarine Support
Command assistant supply
officer, cut the ribbon at the
official opening of the new
culinary training facility at
Lockwood Hall galley Sept. 23.

The grand opening included a speech by two members of the U.S. Army's Culinary Arts Team and a meat preparation and pastry demonstration by members of Y. Hata and Co. food distributor.

Davidson was delighted with the effort made in getting the training facility up and running.

"Over a year ago, we started to move forward with building a training galley. The concept was to get junior culinary specialists enthusiastic about food service," said Davidson.

"Senior Chief Scott Jennings, Chief Juan Hernandez and Kenneth Huddleston took my idea and made it happen. Navy Region Hawai'i and Naval Station Pearl Harbor were great supporters. They helped us draft a memorandum of agreement so we can use this facility and SUBPAC came through with the funding," said Davidson.

"Every month we are going to provide training from various guest chefs in the community. Today we will be training on meat fabrication and pastries. Next month we will be going over pizza dough and cheesecake," he said. Ernesto Limcaco, Y. Hata

Ernesto Limcaco, Y. Hata corporate executive chef, is impressed with the new facility. He is familiar with the submarine galleys after working side-by-side with submarines culinary specialists in the past to give training and offer tips.

"This is a great opportunity for the Navy. They have great cooks and now they can become more involved with their cooking, learn alternative techniques and be excited about their job. Hopefully I will get to see a Navy team competing in different military culinary art events in the near future," said Limcaco.

Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Jeremy Hill, USS Columbia (SSN 771), used the Lockwood Hall galley before the new improvements. He said the change is important for morale.

"I really like this idea. I have worked here in the past a few times, and I always wondered if the Navy could do more with it. Now that they have done more with this galley, training is going to be exciting," said Hill.

"This training facility can be used for all U.S. Navy vessels in Pearl Harbor... I advise everyone to get out of their small galley on the submarine, come over here, and get some valuable training in an occupational and hands on setting instead of a classroom."

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements: Phone: (808) 473-2888 email us at: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley A Naval Station, Pearl Harbor color guard parades the colors by the USS Nevada Memorial at a ceremony that established Naval Security Group Activity, Hawai'i.

NSGA: Combining forces to enhance mission effectiveness

Continued from A-1

Class Nicolas Dunlap, from NSGA, Kunia. "The best thing about the merge is getting to know new people, because building relationships and camaraderie is very important."

NSGÂ, Kunia was officially commissioned Nov. 14, 1980 at Wheeler Air Force Base to serve as an integral member of the worldwide U.S. communications network and provide radio relay and secure communications for the defense of the United States and its allies. NSGA, Pearl Harbor was officially commissioned

July 9, 1982 and served as an interpretive detachment assigned to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Capt. Christopher L. Parente, former commanding officer NSGA, Kunia, became the first Commanding Officer of NSGA, Hawai'i at the ceremony. He hopes the union of the commands brings positive changes from the Sailors working together.

"I am thrilled to be the first commanding officer of Naval Security Group Activity, Hawai'i," he said. "This is more than a merger between two activities. It is the merger of two families."

Navy to launch Fleet Business Course

Commander, Fleet Forces
Command Public Affairs

Navy leaders around the fleet are now required to complete the new Fleet Business Course by Nov. 30.

The course is an advanced leadership continuum that introduces a new vocabulary and culture that will help train leaders to be more effective and efficient.

"We're providing our leaders with some inspiration and understanding, and a few tools they can use to maintain our warfighting culture, with the added dimension of business discipline," said Rear Adm. James Winnefeld, director, Warfare Programs and Transformational Concepts, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (FFC).

Sea Enterprise, one of the three supporting processes in "Sea Power 21," introduced the notion that the Navy can no longer afford readiness at any cost.

"Although the demands of our wartime footing and the need to recapitalize have spurred efforts to be more efficient, the American taxpayer rightfully expects we do so as a matter of routine," said Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command Adm. William J. Fallon. "We can and will continue to exercise fiscal discipline in achieving combat readiness by undertaking a fundamental change in culture, one that

incorporates a continual, rigorous evaluation of the costs in preparing for combat, and the assumptions that drive those costs, Fallon added.

Realizing the critical importance of educating Navy leaders as a part of this cultural change, FFC, working with the Naval Education and Training Command and Center for Naval Leadership (CNL), produced a computer-based training course that provides practical instruction to command-level leadership in basic business principles and practices.

"In our research, the Navy's culture change takes a very big effort," said CNL commanding officer Capt. Douglas McDonald. "It takes time, it takes money, it takes investment.

"Fleet Business is an introduction to the concept, a clear articulation of the importance of 'Cost-Wise Readiness' and a primer on some of the tools that are currently available to be more 'business-like' in our approach in what we do on a daily basis in the Navy," McDonald said.

The eight-hour course is available online through Navy E-Learning at www.nko.navy.mil.

It is divided into three parts: an introductory video, a module on cost and capability analysis and case studies in process improvements, which illustrate concepts such as Lean, Six Sigma, and Theory of Constraints that have proven track records of success in both private and public sector organizations, including examples from Navy commands.

Commanding officers (CO), executive officers (XO), department heads, command master chiefs, chiefs of the boat and senior enlisted advisors will be required to complete the course by Nov. 30.

"We're not only targeting COs, XOs and senior enlisted leaders," Winnefeld said. "There are also many other leaders who serve in a variety of assignments that need to understand these principles, as well, and we're going to push hard to see that as many people as possible take this course."

FFC has also established a business practices Web site at www.fleetbusiness.navy.mil, which serves as a central repository of information on fleet business strategies and policies, recommended reading, links to other valuable sites, and a Web-based system to collect and disseminate best practices from the fleet and reward personnel for innovative suggestions.

"This is not about checking the block in yet another new leadership technique or applying the latest business trend," said Winnefeld. "This is about Sailors getting fired up to learn about being smart business people, and applying best business practices and ideas to improve the way we use the resources entrusted to us for our nation's defense."

PWC streamlines Pearl Harbor vehicle rentals

Denise Emsley

PWC Pearl Harbor Public Affairs

Looking to provide better service and reduce costs to Navy customers, Navy Public Works Center, Pearl Harbor (PWC) and Fleet Industrial Support Center, Pearl Harbor (FISC) have streamlined their vehicle rental operations.

Fleet activities will now be able to use their Government Purchase Card (GPC) to rent additional vehicles as needed on previously established government contracts. Ship and shore commands can request commercial vehicle rentals via PWC's Transportation Department. Interested commands should call 474-3134 Ext. 227 and/or email PWC's Sumiko Wolverton, sumiko.wolverton@navy.mil.

Wolverton will make reservations through FISC's vehicle rental contracts with rental car agencies and supply contact information/confirmation number to the customer. Customers will need to confirm and provide their GPC number within 48 hours of the reservation date.

For fuel purchases, customers may use their GPC to buy fuel at commercial sources. However, PWC recommends customers forward them a funding document (DD1149 or NAVCOMPT Form 2275) in order to use government fuel stations, which are at about 60 percent the commercial rate. Funding documents are also required for any requests over the micro purchase (\$2,500) limit of the customer's GPC.

In the case of afloat commands returning from sea, PWC's Shipboarding Officer will deliver a government truck and sedan, provided by Navy Region Hawai'i, to their berth. The customer can use their government vehicles to pickup any additional commercial vehicle(s) from a rental car agency.

The use of the GPC and FISC's vehicle rental contracts will quickly realize cost savings for the Navy by dramatically reducing numerous administrative functions and provide better service to all customers. This effort and anticipated savings resulted from implementing the Chief of Navy Operation's Sea Enterprise initiatives.

Hawafi Navy News Opline www.hawaii.navy.mil